THE REPUTATION OF Dr. OATES,

(The First DISCOVERER of the horrid POPISH PLOT)

CLEAR'D IN THE

TRYAL

OF

THOMAS KNOX,

Formerly a Servant to the Earl of *DANBY*, and the Lord *DUNBLAIN*, his Son;

AND

JOHN LANE,

Formerly a Servant to Doctor *OATES.*

WHEREIN

Is set forth their Endeavours to scandalize the Doctor, thereby to invalidate his Evidence; and how the Lords in the *Tower*, and others, hired them to it.

LONDON, Printed for *Robert Harford*, at the *Angel* in *Cornhill*, near the *Royal-Exchange*, 1679.

THE REPUTATION OF Dr. OATES,

(The First DISCOVERER of the horrid POPISH PLOT)

(LEAD IN THE

TRYAL

OF

THOMAS KNOX,

Formerly a Servant to the Earl of DANBY, and the Lord DUNBLAIN, his son;

AND

JOHN LANE,

Formerly a Servant to Doctor OATES.

WHEREIN

It set forth their Endeavours to scandalize the Doctor, thereby to invalidate his Evidence; and how the Lords in the Tower, and others, hired them to it.

LONDON: Printed in Saint Mary's, at the Angel in [illegible] 1679.

THE REPUTATION OF Dr. OATES

(The First DISCOVERER of the horrid POPISH PLOT) CLEAR'D.

Doctor *TITUS OATES*, having on the 19th day of *November*, 1679. preferred a Bill of Indictment againſt *Thomas Knox*, who was formerly Servant to the Earl of *Danby*, and his Son the Lord *Dunblain*, and *John Lane* and *William Osborn*, (both) once his Servants. The grand Jury found the Bill againſt the three. But *Osborn* being fled, the Court appointed the other two to be tryed on *Saturday* the 22th inſtant; upon which day the Jury not filling in time, and ſome other buſineſs intervening, the Court adjourn'd the ſaid Tryal until *Tueſday*, the Twenty fifth of *November*.

At which time the Court being ſate, there appeared therein a great number of Perſons of Honour, and Gentlemen of good Quality, to ſee and hear a Tryal of ſuch a nature, and a Scrutiny that ſo much concerned the Honour and Reputation of the Proteſtant Religion, and

upon which ſo much depended the diſplay of Popiſh Machination.

The Priſoners being brought to the Bar, the Jury ſworn, whereof Sir *John Kirk* was Fore-man, and the Priſoners arraign'd, their Indictment was read, to which they ſeverally pleaded, not guilty.

In the Indictment is included in a manner the Sum of their whole Crimes, *That* whereas it had been proved, that there was a moſt horrid Plot carried on by *Roman Catholics*, in and out of the Kingdom, againſt the Life and Government of His moſt Sacred Majeſty, and that divers had been deſervedly executed for the ſame, and others lay ſtill under Impeachment in the *Tower* of *London*, and elſewhere, for the ſame Crimes, as the Lords, *Powis*, *Petre*, *Arundel*, *Bellaſis*, *Caſtlemain*, &c. as the ſaid *Knox*, *Lane*, and *Osborn* well knew. Notwithſtanding which, they the ſaid *Knox*, *Lane*, and *Osborn*, did maliciouſly and falſely endeavour to ſtifle the farther Diſcovery of the Plot as much as in them lay. And in favour to the ſaid Impeached Lords and others, and for the preventing of Juſtice, and that the ſaid Perſons might eſcape the puniſhment of the Law, did ſlander and defame Dr. *Titus Oates* Clerk, and *William Bedlow* Gentleman, two of the Diſcoverers of the ſaid Plot; and that in order thereunto, *Knox* did heretofore endeavour to bribe one Mr. *Wiggens*, then Servant to Mr. *Bedlow*, to give him Copies of all his Maſter's Papers of Secrecy, that he ſhould take notice of all ſuch Lords as came at any time to diſcourſe his Maſter; and give him their Names in writing.

That the ſaid *Knox* had obliged himſelf to introduce the ſaid *Wiggens* and *Lane* into Company with the Earl of *Danby*; at any hour in the night Seaſon.

That the Counteſs of *Danby*, who well approved of what *Lane* had engaged to endeavour, did likewiſe offer to introduce *Wiggens*, and his Mother to her Lord in her own Coach at any time.

That Knox had divers Conferences with *Lane* and *Osborn* in the Cloyſter-walks of the *Abby* Church at *Weſtminſter*.

That

That upon diſcovery of this Deſign in *February* laſt, Dr. *Oates* expell'd from his Service the ſaid *Lane* and *Osborn*; but that then this *Knox* did hire them Lodgings in obſcure places, and ſometimes lay with them.

That Knox had forged ſeveral Letters, as from *Lane* and *Osborn*, directed to himſelf, therein expreſſing how perplexed in Conſcience they were at the malicious Contrivances of their Maſter Dr. *Oates*, and Mr. *Bedlow*, againſt the Earl of *Danby*, and other Lords in the *Tower*. All which Contrivances they were reſolved to diſcover, and alſo make it appear, that their ſaid Maſter was a moſt vicious and infamous Man, and had made many attempts of Buggery upon the Body of *Lane*.

In purſuance of which deviliſh Deſign, they did repair to a Juſtice of Peace, to give in upon Oath their Informations of theſe forged Crimes againſt the Doctor, which the ſaid Juſtice refuſing to take, they drew up one themſelves, and delivered it unto the Lord *Latimer*, who kept it a few days, then delivered it back, to be conveyed to the Lord *Powis* to amend.

That the Lord *Powis* did ſend it to one Mr. *Henry Nevil*, aliàs *Paine*, a Priſoner in the Priſon of the *Kings-Bench*, to enlarge and give colourable Proofs thereunto

That the ſaid Papers ſo enlarged and amended, were conveyed unto the Lord *Caſtlemain* to do the like. From whence they came to the hands of Mr. *Thomas Willoughby*, aliàs *Dangerfield*, who out of them drew Affidavits, which the ſaid *Lane* offered to ſwear to before he had read them; adding, that he would ſwear any thing againſt his Maſter, ſo that he might be a gainer.

That afterwards they did ſwear theſe forged and contrived Informations before the Worſhipful Sir *James Butler*, one of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace.

That the ſaid *Knox* did at ſeveral times purpoſely drop or let fall ſeveral pieces of Gold called *Guinneys*, and ſometimes Silver, which they took up as their own.

That Knox did promiſe them, as from the Earl of *Danby*, beneficial Places, either in the Treaſury or Cuſtoms,

and promiſed them, as from the other Lords in the *Tower*, Five hundred Pounds in hand, and each One hundred Pound *per Annum* to be ſetled upon them.

That after the Deſign had gone thus far, they being in *February* laſt apprehended and committed to the *Gate-houſe*, were examined upon their Oaths by Sir *William Waller*, and Collonel *Warcup*; to whom they confeſſed, that all they had ſworn againſt Dr. *Oates* was malicious and falſe, and that they were prompted, hired, and encouraged thereunto by the ſaid *Knox*, and that they did verily believe, that the Earl of *Danby*, in confidence of the ſucceſs of this Deſign, did ſurrender himſelf to the black Rod.

Soon after this, they were brought before a Committee of Lords then ſitting in the Lord Privy-Seal's Chamber, where alſo appeared the two Juſtices, who ſhewed their Lordſhips the ſaid Examinations, which they owned, and humbly prayed the mercy and forgiveneſs of their Lordſhips, and their Maſter Dr. *Oates*.

A few days after which they were diſcharged from the *Gate-houſe*; but no ſooner had they their liberty, but upon the Inſtigation a ſecond time, of the ſaid *Knox*, in behalf of the Lords, and other Popiſh perſons, but they moſt impudently and maliciouſly reſumed the proſecution of their aforeſaid falſe and forged Informations againſt the ſaid Dr. *Oates*; and have alſo been received and lodged in the Houſe of the Lord *Powis*, and at his charge, and with and from the ſaid Lord, and other Lords in the *Tower*, had frequent Conferences and Directions.

That when they lodged at Mrs. *Cellier*'s Houſe, they had an allowance of Ten Shillings *per* Week.

And this preſent Term did bring the ſaid falſe, forged, and ſlanderous Papers and Matters into the Court of *Kings-Bench*, thence and thereupon to frame an Indictment againſt the ſaid Dr. *Oates*, which was by the Jury found *Ignoramus*, and thrown out.

After all which they now ſtand here to make Defence to theſe their villainous Crimes of Forgery and Perjury, and ſlandering the King's Evidence.

The

The Doctor had many Witneſſes (13) to prove the Indictment againſt them.

I. Sir *William Waller*, and Collonel *Warcup*, produced *Lane* and *Osborn*'s Confeſſion upon Oath in *February* laſt, as is before-mentioned in juſtification of Dr. *Oates*.

II. Mr. *Wiggens* and his Mother proved *Knox* his tampering with them againſt Mr. *Bedlow*.

III. One of His Majeſties Warders, and Mr. *Samuel Oates*, declared, That the ſaid *Lane* and *Osborn* confeſſed to them, what great Preferments and Rewards they were to have for their work, when done.

IV. Mr. *Dangerfield* (whoſe Pardon paſſed the Great Seal the day before) did fully declare how and in what manner he was imployed by the ſaid Lords in the *Tower*, to tamper with, and corrupt the ſaid *Lane* and *Osborn* with *Knox*; and did clearly make out, how the ſaid forged Papers were mended and enlarged by him and them, and that the Lady *Powis* did deliver, or cauſe to be delivered to the now indicted Perſons, or their Uſe, Ten Shillings *per* Week; which Evidence was ſtrengthened by concurring circumſtances from two perſons more; and beſides them, other Witneſſes, which ſufficiently proved the Indictment, ſo that the Jury, without removing from the Bar, pronounced them guilty; at which the People gave a great ſhout: And the Priſoners were committed to the Priſon of the *Kings-Bench*.

His Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed to give Dr *Oates* an Order upon the Lords of his Treaſury, for the forthwith reimburſing him all ſuch Moneys, as the full Charge of this Proſecution hath amounted unto.

The Judges and Chief Officers of the Court, together with the Jury, had that Honour and Eſteem likewiſe

for

for the Doctor, and were ſo far convinc'd of the Injury done him, by being put to ſuch great and unneceſſary Charge, that they all forgave him his Fees.

November 27. Dr. *Oates* appeared at the *Kings-Bench* Bar, and demanded Judgment againſt the ſaid *Knox* and *Lane*, which by reaſon that the Verdict was not recorded; or if recorded, that the Record was not filed up, or ſome other formality in Law; they could not paſs Judgment until the next Term.

The Council for the Doctor were,

Serjeant *Maynard*,
The *Attorney General*,
The *Sollicitor General*,
The *Recorder*,
Sir *Francis Winnington*,
Mr. *Trenchard*,
Mr. *Williams*,
Mr. *Smith*.

The Council againſt the Doctor were,

Mr. *Scroggs*, the *Lord Chief Juſtice*'s Son,
With two more.

FINIS.

ADVERTISEMENT.

A True *Narrative* of the Popiſh *PLOT* againſt King *CHARLES* the Firſt and the *Proteſtant Religion*, as it was diſcovered by *Andreas ab Habernfeld* to Sir *William Boſwell* the *Engliſh* Ambaſſador at the *Hague*, and by him tranſmitted to Archbiſhop *Laud*, who communicated it to the KING. The whole Diſcovery being found amongſt the Archbiſhop's Papers, by Mr. *Prynn*, who was ordered to ſearch his Study in the Tower by a Commitee of the then Parliament *May* 31. 1643. With ſome *Hiſtorical Remarks* on the *Jeſuits*, and a *Vindication* of the *Proteſtant Diſſenters* from *Diſloyalty*. Alſo a Compleat *Hiſtory* of the Papiſts late *Preſbyterian PLOT* diſcovered by Mr. *Dangerfield*, wherein an Account is given of ſome late Tranſactions of Sir *Robert Peyton*.

216999